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20 March 1973

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Assistant Legislative Counsel

SUBJECT : Senator Ervin Request in re S.942

1. This memorandum is in response to your request to the DDI for comments and suggestions for the preparation of a reply to Senator Ervin's request for our views regarding S.942, a bill introduced by Senator Ribicoff.
2. The Ribicoff bill mentions CIA by name only once (in Section 10), but there are provisions in the bill which would certainly have an indirect effect on CIA. The DCI is a member of the CCINC, and the CIA would be affected by provisions of the bill having to do with the CCINC and the CCINC substructure. Under Section 5 of the bill the CCINC would be abolished and would be replaced by a "Policy Committee on Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs," and under Section 13 this new Policy Committee would be chaired by the Attorney General (instead of the Secretary of State, who chairs the CCINC) and the Vice Chairman of the Policy Committee would be the Director of the FBI. The membership of the Committee is not detailed in Section 13, but presumably CIA would be represented. The bill evidently would increase the FBI role overseas.
3. The language of the Ribicoff bill seems to reflect a lack of full understanding of the present structure and functions of the CCINC. The stated purpose of the bill is "to transfer and reorganize all existing law enforcement functions of the Federal Government related to trafficking in narcotics and dangerous drugs in a Division of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs established in the Federal Bureau of Investigation." Section 5 of the bill, however, would transfer to the Attorney General (and thence to the FBI; see Section 6) "all functions of the Secretary of State which are administered through or with respect to the Cabinet Committee on International Narcotics Control." But the functions of the CCINC have by no means been limited to law-enforcement matters, and actions under CCINC related to law enforcement abroad are in large part matters of diplomatic action or approach, hardly something to be handled by the FBI. And so

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on in other areas. It may be noted that the CCINC structure includes a Foreign Intelligence Subcommittee (chaired by Seymour Bolten) among its various committees and subcommittees.

4. Having said all that, I would also note that this is probably not the best time for us to comment on a bill dealing with reorganization of narcotics functions. The organization question has been under consideration by the Administration for months now and some organizational changes could be announced at any time. I do not know what changes may or may not come. It may well be that FBI will get a role; but the FBI is hardly likely to get the role Ribicoff would give it.

5. All in all, I am suggesting that the reply sent to Senator Ervin be not too detailed. I do not know exactly the type of reply you would normally send in response to a request of this sort. A full commentary in this case would be rather lengthy and I doubt that that is wanted. Whatever is wanted, however, I will of course be happy to cooperate. Please let me know if I can do anything further.

STATINTL

DDI Coordinator on
International Narcotics Matters

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